



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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Paper No. 4³

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Mailed

In re Application of: :
John A. Giuliani, et al. :
Application No.: 09/286,304 :
Filed: April 6, 1999 :
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR :
GENERATING PURCHASE :
INCENTIVES BASED ON PRICE :
DIFFERENTIALS :

JUN 23 1999

Director's Office
Group 2700

DECISION ON PETITION
TO MAKE SPECIAL

This is a decision on the petition under M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII) to make the above-identified application special, filed April 6, 1999.

A grantable petition to make special in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Item VIII, must be accompanied by (a) the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I), (b) a statement that all claims are directed to a single invention or an offer to make an oral election without traverse should the Patent and Trademark Office hold that the claims are not directed to a single invention, (c) a statement that a pre-examination search has been made by the inventor, attorney, agent, professional searcher, etc., and a listing of the field of search by class and subclass, (d) one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims, and (e) a detailed description of the submitted references and discussions pointing out how the claimed subject matter is distinguishable over these references.

For the above stated reasons, the petition is **GRANTED**.

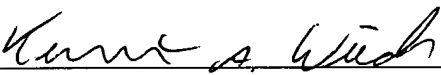
The application file will be forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.

If the examiner can make this application special without prejudice to any possible interfering applications, and he or she should make a rigid search for such, he or she is authorized to do so for the next action. Should the application be rejected, the application will not be considered special for the subsequent action unless the applicant promptly makes a bona fide effort to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to have an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.

If the examiner finds any interfering application for the same subject matter, he or she should consider such application simultaneously with this application and should state in the official letter of such application that he or she is taking it out of its turn because of possible interference.

Should an appeal be taken in this application or should this application becomes involved in an interference, consideration of the appeal and the interference will be expedited by all Patent and Trademark Office officials concerned, contingent likewise upon diligent prosecution by the applicant.

After allowance, this application will be given priority for printing. See M.P.E.P. § 1309.



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